(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the production for striking a balance between consumption of sugar and the prices?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMAR AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The estimated production of sugar in the country during current year season 2003-04 (Oct.-Sept.) is 138.00 lakh tonnes as against estimated production of 201.00 lakh tonnes during the sugar season 2002-03.

(b) and (c) In view of adequate stock of sugar in the country in 2003-04 (sugar season) for domestic consumption, no such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

Committee on climate change

*171. PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would constitute a Committee of experts on the question of climate change and determine firmly India's position on this crucial question; and

(b) if so, by when Government would constitute such a Committee?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Sir, the Government has already constituted a Standing Core Group on Climate Change in July, 2002 which consists of representatives from concerned Ministries and experts in different relevant disciplines to advise on issues which come up for negotiations in International Climate Change fora.

Transfer of research benefits to farmers

†*174. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.